

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

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MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING
of the
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
and the
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 24, 2007

1. Call to order.

The 325th joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Conservancy Chairperson Elizabeth Cheadle at 7:40 p.m. on September 24, 2007 at the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens, 570 West Avenue Twenty-Six, Los Angeles, California.

The Executive Director administered the Oath of Office to Anita Fromholz, representing the City of Pasadena.

2. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Jody Noiron, Antonio Gonzales, Elva Yañez, Jerome C. Daniel, Bryan Cash, and Elizabeth Cheadle, Chairperson. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Woody Smeck, James Berkus, and Ronald Schafer, Vice Chairperson. The following member was present subsequent to roll call: Linda Parks.

3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Caroline Brown, Anita Fromholz, Richard Gould, Marc Johnson, Lawren Markle, John McCord, Barry Read, Paul Rockenstein, Dennis Seider, Marc Stirdivant, Garen Yegparian, George Lange, Vice Chairperson, and Don Robinson, Chairperson. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Claudia Bill De La Peña, David Brown, Alan Kishbaugh, William Koehler, Mary Sue Maurer, Roseann Mikos, Linda Palmer, Wendy-Sue Rosen, Nancy Stephens, Liane Weintraub, and Timothy Wendler. The following member was present subsequent to roll call: Michael Cacciotti.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director; Laurie Collins, Chief Staff Counsel; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Juliet Chung, Contracts and Fiscal Officer, Government Programs, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

4. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

The Chair announced that the following legislative participants were present: Kevin De Leon and Laura Plotkin.

Comments were made by the Chair and Kevin De Leon.

5. Approval of minutes.

The minutes of August 27, 2007 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of August 27, 2007 were approved as submitted.

6. Reports.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from the Chair, the Executive Director, and Michael Berger, representing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Gonzales.

Comments were made by Mr. Berger.

7. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

Comments were made by Ms. Brown, Mr. Daniel, and Ms. Plotkin.

8. Comments from members of the public on items not on the agenda and public testimony on all agenda items.

The following person addressed the Conservancy:

Joan Luchs, representing Hillside Federation, on item 9(a).
Damian Carroll, representing Officer of Assemblymember Mike Feuer, on item 20.
Barbara Cameron, representing City of Malibu, on item 19.
David Burg, member of the public, on item 20.

9. Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Los Angeles on the Notice of Preparation for the Universal City Vision Plan, ENV 2007-0254 EIR, Cahuenga Pass.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Los Angeles County on Notice of Preparation for Plum Canyon Revision Project, Vesting Tentative Tract Map 46018, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing agreement with Zions First National Bank for bridge financing of Conservancy grant projects.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing sponsorship of workshop on the relationship between outdoor activity, parks, and children's health at the National Latino Congreso.**

Items 9(a) and 9(d) were removed from the Consent Calendar.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Rockenstein, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 07-79 and 07-80.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. 07-79 and 07-80.

- 9(a). Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Los Angeles on the Notice of Preparation for the Universal City Vision Plan, ENV 2007-0254 EIR, Cahuenga Pass.**

Comments were made by Mr. Read.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 07-78.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 07-78.

9(d.) Consideration of resolution authorizing sponsorship of workshop on the relationship between outdoor activity, parks, and children's health at the National Latino Congreso.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Rockenstein, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 07-81.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Parks, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 07-81.

Mr. Gonzales was noted as abstaining from this item.

The Chair announced that item 19 would be heard next.

19. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 and/or Conservancy Fund funds to the City of Malibu for purchase of park shuttle vans for access to parklands.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Markle.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Ms. Barbara Cameron, representing the City of Malibu.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Cash.

Comments were made by Ms. Cameron.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Seider, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 07-89 as amended.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 07-89 as amended.

The Chair announced that Item 20 would be heard next.

20. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to Community Conservancy International for a project feasibility study of a stream restoration project along the Los Angeles River adjacent to the Studio City Golf and Tennis Club.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Yegparian and Seider.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Ms. Esther Feldman, representing Community Conservancy International.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 07-90 as amended.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 07-90 as amended.

10. Presentation by the UCLA Institute of the Environment on updates to the Santa Monica Mountains Comprehensive Plan.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Ms. Katy Delany, representing the UCLA Institute of the Environment.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Parks, and Messrs. Seider, and Lange.

Comments were made by Ms. Delany.

11. Report of Second Quarter 2007 Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy grants.

Comments were made the Executive Director and the Chair.

12. Consideration of resolution authorizing technical amendments to Resolution No. 07-52.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Read, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 07-82.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 07-82.

13. Consideration of resolution authorizing technical amendments to Resolution Nos. 07-53, 07-54, 07-55, 07-56, 07-57, 07-60, 07-61, and 07-64.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Read, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 07-83.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gonzalez, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 07-83.

Mr. Cash was noted as abstaining.

14. Consideration of resolution adding Calleguas Creek Watershed Wetlands Acquisition and Restoration project to the Conservancy Workprogram.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 07-84.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Parks, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 07-84.

15. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to acquire APN 4434-009-015, a 38-acre parcel in the Garapito Canyon tributary of Topanga Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Read, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 07-85 as amended.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 07-85 as amended.

16. Consideration of resolution authorizing an augmentation of SMM-0754 to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design services in the upper Los Angeles River Watershed.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Seider and Yegparian.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Robinson.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Yegparian, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 07-86.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gonzales, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 07-86.

17. Consideration of resolution authorizing an augmentation of SMM-0754 to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design services in the coastal watersheds of the Santa Monica Bay including Calleguas Creek.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Yegparian, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 07-87.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cash, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 07-87.

- 18. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds (in augmentation of existing Proposition 50 funds) to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning, design services, and construction of the Tujunga Wash Stream Restoration project.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Yegparian, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 07-88 as amended.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cash, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 07-88 as amended.

- 21. Consideration of resolution amending the agenda to add “Consideration of resolution authorizing endorsement letter to Senator Dianne Feinstein of the National Park Service ‘Centennial Challenge’ Program” pursuant to Government Code Section 11125.3(a)(2).**

Comments were made by the Executive Director and the Chief Staff Counsel.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Read, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 07-91.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cash, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 07-91.

- 22. Consideration of resolution authorizing endorsement letter to Senator Dianne Feinstein of the National Park Service ‘Centennial Challenge’ Program”.**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Yegparian.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Read, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 07-91.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cash, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 07-91.

- 23. Closed Session: (The Conservancy may hold a closed session on the following items pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A), Section 11126.3(a), and Section 11126 Subdivision (e) of the Government Code. Confidential memoranda related to the following items may be considered during such closed session discussions.) Discussion and possible action regarding pending and/or potential litigation: Pending litigation – *Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, et al.*; *Robings v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Case No. LC077488*; *Robings v Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Case No. BC377233*, and *Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy v. City of Malibu*, and related actions.**

No closed session was held.

24. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on October 22, 2007.

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP
Executive Director

ELIZABETH A. CHEADLE
Chairperson